Canadian Film Weekly
VOICE of the CANADIAN MOTION PICTURE INDUSTRY

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Exhibs Ignore 'Adult' Tagging

Candy Companies Merge As FPCC

Effective on April 1st the warehousing and services of Hollywood Confections Ltd. will be merged with those of Theatre Confections Ltd., a wholly-owned subsidiary of Famous Players Canadian Corporation Ltd.

John J. Fitzgibbons, Jr., presi-

(Continued on Page 5)

ASN-Ansco Short Ace Color Cameo

The screening in Toronto last week of "Design For Swimming," produced by B. E. Norrish at Associated Screen News, revealed that the new Ansco color process is in many respects equal to the best being shown in theatres today and superior to the

(Continued on Page 3)

Ontario Censorship Board May Create Film Permit System

Pictures classified in Ontario as "Adult Entertainment" will be released under special permit if exhibitors continue to ignore the regulations that call for special identification of such films. The Motion Picture and Theatre Inspection branch of the province, which is headed by O. J. Silverthorne, is considering this drastic step as a means of seeing that the regulations are applied.

Creation of a permit system for exhibitors would enable the branch to withhold the right to exhibit "Adult Entertainment" films from those who have re-

(Continued on Page 3)

ONTARIO TO GRAB AMUSEMENT TAX

Ontario will impose a 20 per cent amusement tax as soon as Ottawa vacates that taxation field, Provincial Treasurer Leslie Frost told the Legislature last week. The receipts will be used "to provide greater aid to public hospitals," he said.

Organized labor protested immediately. Officials of the Canadian Congress of Labor and the Ontario Federation of Labor told the press that the "amusement tax was a discriminatory measure against the working people, who could hardly afford recreation now."

MGM Will Offer 14 In Summer

Fourteen outstanding productions will be released by MGM in the summer months, it was stated recently by William F. Rodgers, vice-president in charge of distribution. This series of top-budget films includes three previously announced for release

(Continued on Page 5)

'These Many Years'

Ronald Reagan and Wayne Morris will star in Warner's production of J. Redmond Prior's "These Many Years."

'Agreement', Colman Young Win Oscars

"Gentleman's Agreement," Twentieth Century-Fox film now in it first Canadian engagements, was declared to be the best picture of 1947 by the Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences, which named it at its annual gathering last week in the Shrine Auditorium, Los Angeles. Gregory Peck, who starred in the film, was one of the nominees for the best actor Oscar, while Elia Kazan won the director's award for guiding "Gentleman's Agreement" before the cameras and Celeste Holm took the honors as the best supporting actress for her role in it.

(Continued on Page 3)

'Strike It Rich'

"Strike It Rich" will be the first Jack Wrather production for Allied Artists. It will be filmed in Cinecolor.

BC Theatre Planned

G. W. Nickerson, W. J. Scott and associates have purchased four lots in Prince Rupert, BC, with the intentions of building a theatre and a two-storey business block.

New Quebec Theatre

Dr. J. E. Guibord's 600-seat Palace Theatre in Grand'Mere, Quebec, opened recently. Costing approximately $75,000, it is the second house in the community, the other being the 1,100-seat National, also operated by Dr. Guibord.

Stein Heads Board of Trade Industry Branch

Morris Stein, Famous Players, was elected successor to Sydney Samson of Twentieth Century-Fox as chairman of the motion picture branch of the Toronto Board of Trade. Samson resigned because of illness. Haskell Masters, Warner Brothers, was made vice-president and F. D. Tolchard of the Board of Trade remained secretary-treasurer.

The executive committee was enlarged from five to seven and elected to serve on it along with the chairman and vice-chairman were Clare Appel, Odeon Theatres; J. J. Chisholm, Associated Screen News; Ben Geldsaler, Famous Players; A. W. Perry, Empire-Universal Films; and William Redpath, General Films.

The industrial relations committee will be appointed by the executive committee.

It was decided that future meetings will be held every other month.

Nine new members were elected to membership at the meeting from various sections of the Canadian motion picture industry.

J. J. Fitzgibbons, a member, was recently elected to the governing body of the Toronto Board of Trade.

Rock Island, Quebec House Burns Down

Fire of unknown origin which began during the night recently destroyed the 280-seat Border Theatre at Rock Island, Quebec, which was owned by P. C. Taylor. He recently redecorated it.

The Rock Island house was the seventh house destroyed by fire since the beginning of the year. Taylor acquired it four years ago.

Blankstein Heads 'Peg Board Of Trade

I. W. Blankstein was elected president recently of the Winnipeg Film Board of Trade. Other officers elected were A. Feinstein, vice-president; S. Gunn, honorary secretary; F. Davis, fire marshal; A. Levy, assistant fire marshal.

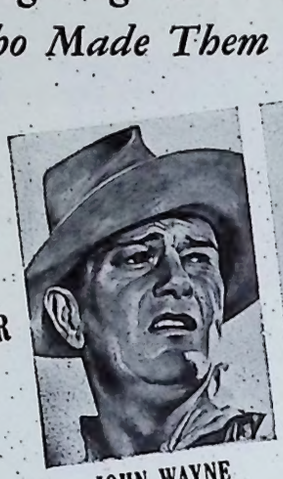
Gunn, M. Nackimson and I. Levitt were named on the credit committee.

The Brightest British Comedy In Years Continues To Make Holdover Records Everywhere
'QUIET WEEKEND' — NOW 5th BIG WEEK — VANCOUVER
A PATHE (British) PICTURE from INTERNATIONAL FILM DISTRIBUTORS Limited

JOHN FORD'S MASTER DRAMA

— Of The Frontier's Fighting Men . . .
And The Women Who Made Them Heroes!

JOHN FORD
and
MERIAN C. COOPER
present



JOHN WAYNE
as Capt. York

HENRY FONDA
as Colonel Thursday

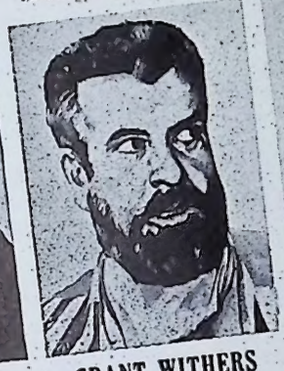
SHIRLEY TEMPLE
as Philadelphia Thursday

PEDRO ARMENDARIZ
as Sergeant Beaufort

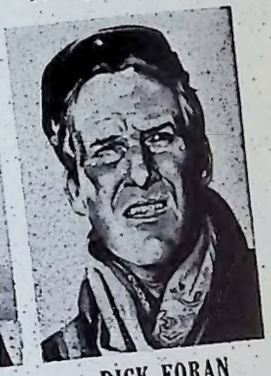
WARD BOND
as Sergeant O'Rourke

GEORGE O'BRIEN
as Capt. Collingwood

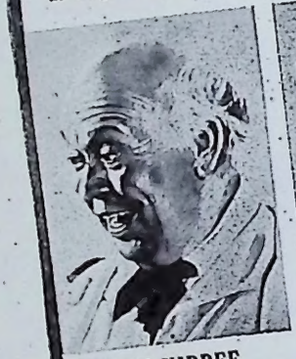
VICTOR McLAGLEN
as Sergeant Mulcahy



GRANT WITHERS
as Meacham



DICK FORAN
as Sergeant Quincannon



GUY KIBBEE
as Dr. Wilkins

IRENE RICH
as Mrs. O'Rourke

ANNA LEE
as Mrs. Collingwood

JACK PENNICK
as Sergeant Shattuck

JOHN AGAR
as Mickey O'Rourke

A mighty motion picture of majestic sweep and tremendous action! . . . LUSTY with the humor of reckless cavalrymen . . . TENDER with the romance of women who dare . . . ABLAZE with the fire of savage conflict!

JOHN WAYNE · HENRY FONDA
SHIRLEY TEMPLE · PEDRO ARMENDARIZ

FORT APACHE

Directed by JOHN FORD

Screen Play by FRANK S. NUGENT • AN ARGOSY PICTURES PRODUCTION • Released by RKO RADIO PICTURES

ASN-Ansco Short Ace Color Cameo

(Continued from Page 1)

rest. The method of duplicating Ansco color, still being studied in American laboratories, was perfected by Maurice Metzger, technical supervisor of Associated Screen News. He worked with Ansco technicians to devise automatic developing and printing equipment on which the film was processed. Metzger is a member of the Society of Motion Picture Engineers.

The short subject, which will be the first of ASN's revived Canadian Cameo series for theatre exhibition, was directed by Gordon Sparling, a member of the Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences, and photographed by Bob Martin, an outstanding color cinematographer. Norrish, the producer, is head of Associated Screen News and has long been the leading figure in Canadian film production.

Showing members of the Mermaid Swimming Club of Toronto demonstrating ornamental swimming to Tschaikowsky's Swan Lake ballet, "Design For Swimming" is outstanding in every technical department and an indication that Canada can provide short subjects every bit as good as those which arrive from Hollywood every day. The color is never obtrusive, nor is it uneven at any point and the same is true of the music, composed in part by Lucio Agostini, and sound recording. The entire effect is one of a satisfactory integration of the work of the various persons connected with the making of the film, which could play any theatre on the continent to the complete satisfaction of the audience, including Radio City Music Hall in New York.

Members of the press and the theatre industry who viewed the first screening of "Design For Swimming" at Famous Players' offices were unanimous in their praise of it.

The Canadian Cameo series was begun in 1932 and since then some 60 subjects have been produced and shown in different countries. Their production was suspended during the war. Sparling, who has supervised production of the Cameo series since its inception, was overseas for three years during the war, when he commanded the No. 1 Canadian Army Film and Photo Unit.

Another For Odeon

Odeon Theatres' Champlain Theatre at Papineau and St. Catharines East in Montreal opened March 27th. It is the third new Odeon house in that city to open recently and will play French-language films.

'Agreement', Colman Young Win Oscars

(Continued from Page 1)

With three Academy Awards the production, now in its fourth week in Toronto, should keep right on running.

The winning film, which deals with anti-Semitism, represented a courageous experiment by Darryl Zanuck, its producer, who found that he had not only a boxoffice bomb-shell but the year's best film.

Ronald Colman, British-born, was named the best actor for his role in Universal-International's "A Double Life," in which he portrays an actor playing in "Othello" whose own offstage troubles are like those of Othello.

The best actress award went to Loretta Young for her characterization of a Swedish-American politician in "The Farmer's Daughter," an RKO picture. Her victory was a surprise to many, who felt that Rosalind Russell would be chosen for her work in RKO's "Mourning Becomes Electra."

Edmund Gwenn, of English birth, brought Twentieth Century-Fox another Oscar when he was given the best supporting actor award for his work in "Miracle on 34th Street," in which he played a harassed but persistent Santa Claus.

All named were first-time winners of Academy Awards.

"Great Expectations" and "Black Narcissus," both J. Arthur Rank films released by Eagle-Lion in Canada, won two awards each. The awards, the same for each film, were in the black-and-white class in the case of "Great Expectations" and in the color category for "Black Narcissus." They were honored for best art direction and set decoration and best cinematography. Miss Jean Simmons, who played in both films and was in Hollywood, accepted them for the winners.

"Miracle on 34th Street," also won three honors. Besides Gwenn's best supporting role award the picture was voted the best original motion picture story (by Valentine Davies) and best written screenplay (by George Seaton). "A Double Life" won with the best musical score of a dramatic picture (by Dr. Miklos Rozsa).

The best original song of the year was "Zip-Adee-Doo-Dah," by Allie Wrubel and Ray Gilbert, in the Disney feature, "Song of the South."

Other awards included:

Best original screenplay, "The Bachelor and the Bobbysoxer," by Sidney Sheldon (RKO); best cartoon, "Tweetie Pie" (Warner Bros.); best two-reel short subject, "Climbing the Matterhorn," Irving Allen, producer (Monogram); best one-reel short, "Goodbye Miss Turlock," Herbert Moulton, producer (MGM); best documentary, "Design for Death," Sid Rogell, executive producer (RKO).

Floods In Brampton Delays Openings

Floods in Brampton, Ontario, delayed the reopening of the old Capitol, which was renovated and renamed the Odeon, for one week and held back the opening of the Roxy, a Quonset-type theatre, one day. Both houses will be operated by National Theatre Services.

Sam'l Freedman Dies Was Theatre Man

Samuel Freedman, for many years a theatre operator in Toronto, passed away recently in Miami. He was the father of Ben Freedman of Allied Co-Operative Theatres, and was for many years an exhibitor prior to his retirement from theatre business in 1929.

Mr. Freedman operated the Monarch Theatre in 1919 and later the Woodbine Palace, both now non-existent.

He is survived by his wife, Sarah; three other sons, Max, Mike and Sol; three daughters, Annie Williams, Alma Winston and Celia Freedman; and 11 grandchildren and three great grandchildren.

Services were held at the Minsker Synagogue, of which the late Mr. Freedman was one of the founders.

Paxton Elevated

John Paxton has been elevated to producer by RKO.

MORRIS STEIN

Elected chairman of the motion picture branch of the Toronto Board of Trade.

Warn Exhibitors Re 'Adult' Ruling

(Continued from Page 1)

peatedly ignored the regulations, it being assumed that exchanges will be asked not to ship to theatre operators without a certificate of approval.

"Apparentiy the only solution will be for our Censorship Board to release all 'Adult' pictures under special permit, excluding theatres that have failed to comply with requirements in connection with 'Adult Entertainment', which means that offending exhibitors will be unable to exhibit such films," Silverthorne wrote recently in a letter to the Motion Picture Theatres Association of Ontario.

Since January 1st of this year 47 Ontario exhibitors have received a second and third warning for failing to identify films that are "Adult Entertainment" as such in their advertising.

The regulations were put in effect on June 1st, 1946, and the branch has had trouble ever since with exhibitors who ignored them. Because of this the regulations were incorporated in the Theatres and Cinematographs Act early in 1947, with prosecution and a $200 penalty possible for violators.

POSITION WANTED

First class projectionist, also capable manager, desires permanent position. Married. Willing to go anywhere. Replies confidential.

Box 15
Canadian Film Weekly
25 Dundas Square,
Toronto, Ontario.

Canadian Film Weekly

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HYE BOSSIN, Managing Editor

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And Now . . .

THE ACADEMY AWARDS 1948

"GREAT EXPECTATIONS"

- 2 *OSCARS*
  for Art Direction and Set Decoration — and for Black and White Cinematography.

"BLACK NARCISSUS"

- 2 *OSCARS*
  for Art Direction and Set Decoration — and for Color Cinematography.

- GREAT EXPECTATIONS was also nominated Best Picture of the Year.

- MICHAEL REDGRAVE was nominated Best Actor of the Year.

BOOK and play these and many other top Eagle-Lion Productions during the J. Arthur Rank Play-Date Drive from now until May 29th, 1948.

EAGLE-LION

MGM Will Offer 14 In Summer

(Continued from Page 1)

in March, "The Bride Goes Wild,-' "Three Daring Daughters" and "Alias a Gentleman."

"Following the established policy of not holding back its most outstanding product for release at the beginning of the so-called 'new season' in the Fall," Rodgers stated, "we have decided to place these pictures in the hands of the exhibitors at the earliest possible moment.

"The entire industry needs outstanding product now. It is imperative that every effort be made to attract a good percentage of potential patrons who do not regularly go to the theatre. We believe we have such product, outstanding pictures that will vastly increase theatre attendance.

"We ask the full co-operation of exhibitors in giving these new productions the kind of support and presentation they deserve."

Scheduled for release in April are "State of the Union," "B. F.'s Daughter" and "Summer Holiday."

"Homecoming" and "The Pirate" are set for May distribution, while "Big City" and "On an Island With You" are slated for June. "Easter Parade" and "A Date With Judy" will be released in July and "Julia Misbehaves" and "A Southern Yankee" in August.

Approval Unobtained Boards Seize Film

Emeric Simard was convicted recently in Thorold, Ontario, court and fined $100 and $10 costs on each of two counts of showing a film which had not been previously reviewed by the Ontario Motion Picture Censor Board and of using an unlicensed projector. It was also confirmed by O. J. Silverthorne, chairman of the Board, that the film had been confiscated.

The five-reeler is believed to concern itself with the administration of Marshal Tito in Jugoslavia, but no first-hand knowledge was available of its content.

Silverthorne said it was the first prosecution of its kind in quite some time and that it was not done for propaganda suppression purposes. "It might be a Mickey Mouse film, but if it's not approved by the Board there is a violation of the law," he said.

Two uncensored films were seized recently in Montreal by the Quebec Provincial Censor Bureau and a summons issued against the motion picture operator for violating the law.

MGM Sets Big Cast For '3 Musketeers'

One of the biggest all-star casts wil appear in MGM's forthcoming Technicolor production of the most famous of all Alexandre Dumas' works, "The Three Musketeers."

Pandro S. Berman, producer, and George Sidney, director, are still casting big-name players, but have chosen Lana Turner for the Countess de Winter role; Gene Kelly for D'Artagnan; Van Heflin for Athos; June Allyson for Constance Bonacieux; Sydney Greenstreet for Richelieu; Keenan Wynn for Planchet; and Reginal Owen for Bonacieux.

New Club Publicizes Foreign Films Only

A new club, The Foreign Films Movie Club, Inc., has been formed to do a promotional and public relations job for foreign films. Members now number well over 10,000 and the membership is expected to reach 50,000 by June.

Headquarters is 438 West 37th St., New York, and executives include Arthur Davis, president; Lloyd W. Means, vice-president; Jacob Davis, secretary-treasurer; and Dr. F. Alvarez, United Nations representative. Honorary members include Fannie Hurst, Pamela Kelino, James Mason and Basil Rathbone.

NORTOWN OPENS

The Nortown, Famous Players' first post-war theatre, opened to the public on Wednesday, March 17th. The theatre, located on Eglinton Avenue near Bathurst in Toronto, introduces many new features unique in modern theatre designing.

The designers concentrated on making it not only the most attractive theatre in Canada but one of the most comfortable.

The exterior of the building is in the contemporary manner. A large stainless steel framed window lights a second floor area laid out for a series of modern office suites. About one third of the entrance front consists of a huge, slightly tilted picture window which provides a view of the entire rotunda and foyer areas. An unique feature is the marquee and sign which tend to lead the eye by design and movement of light to the theatre lobby interior. This lobby carries through the same theme of openness, emphasized by the double bank of plate glass doors and the extending inward of the marquee motif.

The rotunda is lighted by fixtures designed by the architects consisting of free form plaques which appear to be floating against the ceiling. This sunken ceiling panel is designed in such a manner that from every angle it has a different appearance. Also in the foyer is the standee rail which is provided with sliding shutters for adjustment to suit various requirements.

One corner of the foyer is designed as a lounge area. The lounge ceiling is sprayed with rayon to match the color and texture of the carpet below. The lounge is also provided with luxurious built-in seats in deep wine.

Off the foyer is the manager's office. The manager has a clear view of the foyer through a large glass wall.

The auditorium has been designed with the points of good visibility, hearing and comfort always paramount. The floor slope is of the semi-reverse type which gives the best possible view of the screen from all angles without excessive inclines.

The concrete floor is novel. It is venetian red and the color has been mixed with the concrete, eliminating the usual painting.

The seats, 950 of them, are the new "push back" type in which the patron may remain seated while another passes in front. For added comfort, the seats are spaced further apart than is customary.

The last ten rows of seats in the auditorium are designated the "smoking section." This section is provided with special exhaust fans which keep the atmosphere clear at all times and these seats are provided with smokeless ash receivers. A number of seats in the auditorium are provided with amplifiers for the hard of hearing.

Striking is the treatment of the exit doors which are of contrasting color and surrounded by cut-out letters three times normal size and illuminated by concealed red neon.

The hidden, purely functional equipment of the building is the most efficient that modern science can devise. The temperature in the Nortown is completely controlled throughout the year.

The projectionists' suite is also air conditioned and is provided with the newest type of Simplex equipment. A hoist, which runs from the lobby, carries the cans of film to and from the booth.

The south side of the theatre has been landscaped in stepped down stages and there is a floral display in front of the picture window. A parking lot adjoins the theatre.

The Nortown Theatre was built under the direction of Jules Wolfe, supervisor of theatre construction for Famous Players. A. G. Facey was the architect and the theatre is under the management of William Falls.

The Nortown will be teamed with the Victoria Theatre on a first-run day-and-date policy.

Candy Companies Merge As FPCC

(Continued from Page 1)

dent and general manager of Hollywood Confections, will become president and general manager of Theatre Confections Ltd. James Stevenson, president of Theatre Confections, will rejoin the theatre management department of Famous Players in an executive capacity.

Ken Wells of Theatre Confections' Toronto office will be

JACK FITZGIBBONS

appointed manager of the Winnipeg branch of the organization which will open shortly.

J. J. Fitzgibbons Jr., rejoined Famous after his service overseas and was active in the formation of Theatre Confections Ltd. After several years as an executive with that organization he gained wider experience in the field of theatre confection servicing with Canadian Automatic Confections and as president and general manager of Hollywood Confections Ltd.

Theatre Confections Ltd. has been expanding steadily and now has a complete warehousing and service establishment on King Street East in Toronto. Recently Theatre Confections opened a branch warehouse in Vancouver to service British Columbia and a new branch is being set up in Winnipeg. Plans are under way for the opening of other branches in key centres throughout Canada.

The merger of Hollywood Confections with Theatre Confections will provide more efficient service for theatres operated by Famous Players and its associated companies.

Victor Mature Cast

Victor Mature has been signed by RKO to star in "Mr. Whiskers."

TOP PICTURES RELEASED...TO BE RELEASED

IN RELEASE

THE SWORDSMAN

starring LARRY PARKS
with ELLEN DREW

COLOR BY TECHNICOLOR

COMPLETED

THE LADY FROM SHANGHAI

starring RITA HAYWORTH
ORSON WELLES

IN RELEASE

ALEXANDER DUMAS'

THE PRINCE OF THIEVES

starring JON HALL

CINECOLOR

COMPLETED

ROBERT LOUIS STEVENSON'S

THE BLACK ARROW

starring LOUIS HAYWARD · JANET BLAIR

IN RELEASE

TWO YEARS TO MAKE!

TO THE ENDS OF THE EARTH

starring DICK POWELL · SIGNE HASSO

COMPLETED

THE STRAWBERRY ROAN

starring GENE AUTRY and CHAMPION

CINECOLOR

IN RELEASE

I LOVE TROUBLE

starring
FRANCHOT TONE · JANET BLAIR

COMPLETED

THE MATING OF MILLIE

starring GLENN FORD · EVELYN KEYES

COMPLETED

THE SIGN OF THE RAM

starring SUSAN PETERS

Alexander Knox · Phyllis Thaxter · Peggy Ann Garner
Ron Randell · Dame May Whitty · Allene Roberts

COMPLETED

THE FULLER BRUSH MAN

starring
RED SKELTON · JANET BLAIR

IN RELEASE

RELENTLESS

starring ROBERT YOUNG
MARGUERITE CHAPMAN

COLOR BY TECHNICOLOR

IN PRODUCTION

THE GALLANT BLADE

starring LARRY PARKS · MARGUERITE CHAPMAN

CINECOLOR

...AND PRODUCED...BY COLUMBIA IN 1948

COLUMBIA PICTURES

IN PRODUCTION

THE MAN FROM COLORADO

starring GLENN FORD · WILLIAM HOLDEN

COLOR BY TECHNICOLOR

IN PRODUCTION

LULU BELLE

starring

DOROTHY LAMOUR · GEORGE MONTGOMERY

IN PRODUCTION

THE RETURN OF OCTOBER

starring GLENN FORD · TERRY MOORE

COLOR BY TECHNICOLOR

IN PRODUCTION

CORONER CREEK

starring

RANDOLPH SCOTT · MARGUERITE CHAPMAN

CINECOLOR

IN PRODUCTION

THE LOVES OF CARMEN

starring RITA HAYWORTH · GLENN FORD

COLOR BY TECHNICOLOR

IN PRODUCTION

LET'S FALL IN LOVE

starring

DOROTHY LAMOUR · DON AMECHE

TO BE PRODUCED

THE LAST 30 MINUTES

starring GLENN FORD

TO BE PRODUCED

ANNA LUCASTA

OVER 2 YEARS ON BROADWAY!
TRIUMPHANT NATION-WIDE TOUR!

TO BE PRODUCED

THE WRANGLER

starring SONNY TUFTS · BARBARA BRITTON

CINECOLOR

TO BE PRODUCED

BORN YESTERDAY

IN 3RD GREAT YEAR ON BROADWAY!

TO BE PRODUCED

WALKING HILLS

starring

RANDOLPH SCOTT · WILLIAM HOLDEN
ELLEN DREW

TO BE PRODUCED

ALL THE KING'S MEN

ROBERT PENN WARREN'S
PULITZER PRIZE NOVEL

THE PICK OF THE PICTURES

Canadian Film Weekly
VOICE of the CANADIAN MOTION PICTURE INDUSTRY

REVIEWS INFORMATION RATINGS

Vol. 13, No. 13 REVIEWS FROM FILM DAILY, NEW YORK $2.00 Per Annum

Albuquerque

with Randolph Scott, Barbara Britton, George "Gabby" Hayes, Lon Chaney

Paramount 89 Mins.

EXCITING MELODRAMA OF STAGE COACH DAYS IN CINECOLOR IS EXCELLENTLY DIRECTED AND SPLENDIDLY ACTED: SHOULD REGISTER SOLIDLY AT THE BOXOFFICE.

This Clarion Production is the most ambitious offering that has been undertaken by Producers William Pine and William Thomas. It has been given excellent direction by Ray Enright.

George "Gabby" Hayes is outstanding as an ore freight rider, while Lon Chaney is convincing as a heavy. One of the best performances is given by George Cleveland, while Russell Hayden and Catherine Craig, who are also featured, do well as brother and sister.

The story is laid in the turbulent days of 1870, with George Cleveland, owner of freight and stage coach lines, a law unto himself and determined to spread his empire.

Catherine Craig, a passenger on one of Cleveland stage coaches, who, with her brother, planned to start a freight line in opposition to Cleveland, is robbed of $10,000. Randolph Scott, a Texas Ranger and nephew of Cleveland, is a fellow passenger.

Cleveland welcomes Scott at Albuquerque, but Scott soon learns that his uncle is behind the robbery, and forces him to return the money. Scott joins Miss Craig and Russell Hayden in their new freight line. Cleveland imports comely Barbara Britton to try and learn secrets of the new line.

One of the most exciting sequences is that of the thrilling ride down a treacherous mountain road by Scott and Hayes, riding heavily-laden freight wagons. The picture culminates in a wild gun fight between the freight riders, led by Scott, and Cleveland's men.

Barbara, who has seen the light, falls in love with Hayden, and Scott with Catherine Craig.

The Clarion production is in Cincelor, with Fred Jackman Jr., handling the photography effectively.

CAST: Randolph Scott, Barbara Britton, George "Gabby" Hayes, Lon Chaney, Russell Hayden, Catherine Craig, George Cleveland.

CREDITS: Producers, William Pine and William Thomas; Director, Ray Enright; Author, Luke Short; Screenplay, Gene Lewis and Clarence Upson Young; Cameraman, Fred Jackman, Jr.

'Weep No More'

William Dieterle will direct RKO's "Weep No More."

Three Daring Daughters

with Jeannette MacDonald, Jose Iturbi Jane Powell

MGM 115 Mins.

LOVELY TO LOOK AT, DELIGHTFUL TO HEAR AND ALMOST CERTAIN TO PLEASE: MacDONALD, ITURBI AND POWELL ESPECIALLY EFFECTIVE.

Set in both metropolitan and tropical splendor, Jeannette MacDonald parades through this in an assortment of beautiful creations casting an aura of charm.

Miss MacDonald is cast as the head of a successful publishing house, and mother of three adolescent daughters. Needing a rest she is persuaded to take a vacation and decides on a trip to Cuba. Although divorced from the girl's father (Charles Morgan), she has never told them any reason except that his job as a newspaper man had kept him too far from home. Actually, he had refused to father the family and had left her.

Meanwhile, Miss MacDonald has captivated Jose Iturbi and marries him.

Having always been very close to her daughters, she hates to tell them the news over the phone or by letter and decides to wait till she gets back. Jose agrees and does not accompany her home on the day their ship docks in New York. Before she has a chance to tell the girls they tell her that their father is about to land. Frantic with the news, she persuades Iturbi not to announce the news yet, and goes to her former husband's publisher to see if he can stop him.

The girls deliberately try to ignore Iturbi, confident that when their father returns their mother will forget all about Jose. Knowing how much they mean to his wife he decides that since the girls haven't taken to him maybe the marriage was a mistake. They part, and it is only then that the three learn the awful truth about their father from Nelson. They try to right their wrong, and with the help of Nelson, reunite their mother and Iturbi.

CAST: Jeannette MacDonald, Jose Iturbi, Jane Powell, Edward Arnold, Harry Davenport, Mayna MacGill.

CREDITS: Producer, Joe Pasternak; Director, Fred M. Wilcox; Original screenplay by Albert Mannheimer, Frederick Kohner, Sonya Levien, John Meehan; Director of Photography, Ray June.

DIRECTION, Very Good.

PHOTOGRAPHY, Splendid.

Man About Town

with Maurice Chevalier

RKO 89 Mins.

WILL NEED SELLING AFTER INITIAL ATTENDANCE WAVE SUBSIDES: GASLIGHT PARIS, PIGALLE, CHEVALIER, L'AMOUR, GAYETY AND GIRLS: SALEABLE STUFF.

Rene Clair worked in many slick directorial touches when he fashioned this production. It brings back Maurice Chevalier in a vehicle that manages to compliment the Gallic star's talents, establish and maintain a period. But it also exposes the general audience to the confusion resulting when Chevalier, as both narrator and star, steps out of character at frequent intervals and switches from French dialogue to English translation. Whole segments of the story's machinations are skipped, or lightly glossed over when this occurs.

Long absent from the American screen Chevalier should prove a welcome sight. The audience that remembers such divertissements as "The Smiling Lieutenant," "The Big Pond" and the many Lubitsch numbers should turn out in force for "Man About Town."

At the comic expense of the basic medium — early French silent days — the script, which was written by Rene Clair, shows Chevalier a producer, knocking out quickies with all the hoopla of the voiceless era. It is Paris in the Spring of 1906. Chevalier operates at Fortuna Studios. Young Jacques, a handy-man-actor at the studio, is taken under Chevalier's wing and schooled in the ways of the world, particularly women.

Madeleine, daughter of a ham actor acquaintance of Chevalier, comes to the city. Her father is on tour. She has no place to go so Chevalier takes her in, gives her a job in pix. The general order at the atelier is "hands off." She meets up with Jacques. They romance and then Chevalier finds himself in love with the girl. Meanwhile the pair have been getting along famously. It all comes out when Chevalier realizes he is not the man for Madeleine and arranges for the fulfilment of their romance.

CAST: Maurice Chevalier, Francois Perrier, Marcelle Derrien, Dany Robin, Robert Pizani, Raymond Cordy.

CREDITS: Produced, directed and written by Rene Clair; English adaption, Robert Pirash; Photography, Armand Thirard.

DIRECTION, Good.

PHOTOGRAPHY, Fair.

Secret Beyond The Door

with Joan Bennett, Michael Redgrave, Anne Revere

Empire-Universal 98½ Mins.

CONFUSING AND INVOLVED TREATMENT RELEGATES THIS ONE TO THE LESSER CATEGORY; HAS NAME VALUES.

Just about enough of the suspense element is included in this Fritz Lang number to make it quite confusing. It is not one of the better examples of Lang's technique. His handling has an aspect of imitation. Too, the players, who certainly can do very much better, are inclined to keep the idea in mind that they are always acting.

Redgrave has been stacking up a number of good roles lately. This is not one of them. However, it stands to show him off to his following. Maybe something went wrong or out the window in translating Rufus King's story to film terms. What eventually comes off is in the nature of a do over of the "Rebecca" story.

Miss Bennett weds Redgrave in Mexico. At first they are quite happy. She is an heiress. He publishes an architectural magazine, collects rooms. He talks about "felicitous" rooms but his collection is given over to chambers where death in violent form has occurred.

Before Redgrave is called off to the States there is some queer business at a bedroom door which irks Miss Bennett. She follows Redgrave to his suburban home where there is assembled a strange assortment of people. She tries to fit herself into the picture as Redgrave's wife. He acts strangely. He loosens up ultimately. They stage a party during which he exhibits his collection of rooms—all but one. Only Redgrave has a key to it but Miss Bennett, via a bit of sly work, manages to have another made and investigates. She finds it a duplicate of her room and at that time Redgrave makes his derangement known. Miss Bennett runs off but soon returns to assist in restoring his mental balance for after all he's her husband and they loved each other. The Redgrave place burns down. The pair return to the scene of the original happiness in Mexico.

CAST: Joan Bennett, Michael Redgrave, Anne Revere, Barbara O'Neil, Natalie Schaefer, Anabel Shaw, Rosa Rey.

CREDITS: A Walter Wanger Presentation; Screenplay, Silvia Richards; Based on a story by Rufus King; Produced and directed by Fritz Lang; A Diana Production; Photography, Stanley Cortez.

DIRECTION, Fair.

PHOTOGRAPHY, Good.

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Paramount Pictures

Film Voting

Odds and Ends

A Puzzling Film Poll

New Liberty magazine has just announced the first of its annual film awards in 14 categories. "In seeking for the best method to make this a truly representative poll, New Liberty decided to send questionnaire to each of Canada's 1,300 movie exhibitors," says the explanation, "Our feeling was that the people best equipped to judge the popularity of 1947's movies and stars would be the men who show the films and talk them over with their patrons in the lobbies of their theatres."

The New Liberty results, which are about 1947 films, are puzzling and illustrate the perils of poll-taking. What did the exhibitors base their findings on — boxoffice, critical standards or both? It would seem that they fell between the stools.

The most mysterious award is fourth place to Elia Kazan in the best direction category. This was for "Gentleman's Agreement." First place went to Alfred E. Green for "The Jolson Story," second place to Clarence Brown for "The Yearling," and third place to Basil Dearden for "Great Expectations."

Since "Gentleman's Agreement" was not shown in Canada until late in February, 1948, how could exhibitors, not having seen the film, vote for it at all? As this is written it is still in its first Canadian engagement in Toronto. How come? You tell me if you can figure it out.

The New Liberty poll provided some interesting results. It showed that "The Best Years of Our Lives," the Academy Award winner in 1946, was considered to be the fourth best film shown in Canada, and that "It's a Wonderful Life," voted third, was better. First place went to "The Jolson Story" and second to "The Yearling." "The Best Years of Our Lives" was chosen by Canadian critics, through the Canadian Film Weekly poll, as the best film. Strange — first in one poll and fourth in the other.

In the biggest money-maker division the Liberty Poll showed "The Best Years of Our Lives" as fourth, with "The Jolson Story" first, "Welcome Stranger" second and "The Egg and I" third.

But this is the catch — "The Best Years of Our Lives" played a limited number of engagements in Canada, these at roadshow prices, and has not had its popular run. In 1947 it played about 150 engagements instead of the usual number, which is between 800 and 900. Because of this it was not included in Canadian Film Weekly's boxoffice poll, but will be voted on next year if released generally by then. It was included in Film Weekly's critics' poll because it played in the leading towns and cities, and so was seen by reviewers.

To ask exhibitors to vote for a film which has played comparatively few theatres to determine their opinions of its quality as a film and its place as a moneymaker can't yield sound results, since so few have seen the film or recorded its earning power. And that's what happened to the "The Best Years of Our Lives" in the New Liberty poll.

"The Jolson Story," New Liberty's winner in the best film division, was third in Film Weekly's poll of critics. "Great Expectations," which the critics placed second to "The Best Years of Our Lives" in Film Weekly's poll, was not among the first four in New Liberty.

According to New Liberty's best short subject voting, Paramount Newsreel's royal wedding footage was a better presentation of that event than Eagle-Lion's Technicolor film.

I think New Liberty's peculiar results make the Canadian Film Weekly's polls look good, even though it's hard to make them foolproof. In our poll exhibitors are guided in their voting by boxoffice power, while critics choose according to their personal opinions.

Canadian Film Weekly poll results received more publicity than ever this year. Leading Canadian daily and weekly newspapers printed them, along with USA trade and daily papers, and they were broadcast from a number of radio stations in different parts of the Dominion. The New York Herald Tribune reported the poll in part.

Reading Matter

The next big funfest for film folk will be the smoker of the Canadian Pictures Pioneers, which will be held in the Yellow Room, King Edward Hotel, on April 6th. Tickets, priced at $3.50, will entitle bearer to his food and drink as well as entertainment. That's certainly cheap enough and what's left over will go to the benevolent fund. You may as well plan to be there, since I know you would rather be inconspicuous by your presence than conspicuous by your absence. Time we had an en masse masculine trade get-together.

Harry Kaufman, Cardinal's Montreal boss, has been in Toronto and may work from here . . . **Sully Ginsler** bit into a well-known brand of chocolate bar the other day and found himself with a mouthful of leather at no extra charge. He phoned the manufacturer, who was all upset and came a-runnin' to see for himself . . . **Anita Colby,** now assistant to Henry Ginsberg at Paramount, is in Canada to boost "The Emperor Waltz" . . . **Del Goodman,** ex-Para chief here, has quit as California West Coast div manager for Eagle-Lion.

Last week I reported something that would puzzle even Dr. Kinsey along with obstetricians and biologists: "It's a girl at the Dawson Exleys, their second child—a brother for their daughter." Should have been "a sister for their son." Readers have been phoning Dawson and us for an explanation . . . **Carlton east** of Church is getting to be quite a theatrical district, what with Warners, Columbia, Astral and the Civic Theatre Association located there . . . **Overheard** in a grocery store, "This is thin fat. I want fat fat."

Charlie Chaplin of UA flew to Hollywood from Vancouver for talks with George Bagnall, v-p, and Paul Lazarus, Jr., ad and pub chief . . . **Considerable damage** was done to the Regent, Picton, when the building settled for the second time . . . **Stan Hamer** of the Acadian got a punch in the nose that broke his glasses from a youth who tried to get in after the ticket sale was stopped. Hamer and an usher chased him in a cab and a policeman finished the chase in a commandeered car. That sort of thing is happening too often.

In **"Gentleman's Agreement"** Greg Peck is telling Dorothy McGuire that he will pose as Jewish to get a story on anti-Semitism and warns her not to tell anyone. The only way to pretend to be Jewish, he tells her, is "to do this thing wholehog." Hogs ain't kosher, Greg . . . **The Cascade** drive-in of Vancouver now has an "added service" — that of heating babies' bottles . . . **A picture will** be made about Mack Sennett, the famed director of comedy in the silent days. Gene Fowler's book, "Father Goose," is about him. Sennett hailed from a farm outside Hamilton.

There was quite a party for Anita Colby, mentioned above, at Vanity Fair, where she told local exhibitors about some of the Paramount films she had worked on. Miss Colby, who had met the Montreal trade and is being accompanied by Win Barron to make sure she meets the right people, not only was very interesting but won a verbal duel from Herb Allen. One of the amusing things related by her was about a famous writing team that always got its script in at the last minute. One of the team finally explained that under Screen Writers Guild rules the last writer on a script got screen credit and they always made sure no one would write behind them.

Odeon's Christmas gift ticket sales awards went to (1) Neil Main, Regent, Sturgeon Falls, (2) Brent Kelly, Oak, Burnaby and (3) Elliott Brown, Odeon, West Vancouver. Extra cash award for largest individual sale went to Sam Binder, Avenue, Edmonton.

Canada Cased By Yank Producers

Although talks between film industry representatives and government officials about dollar conservation are still on, it would seem that Canadian production is being studied by USA picture makers as a means of leaving some of their earnings here. No statement has been issued by any of the parties involved but notes about Canadian shooting keep cropping up in the trade press.

One of the ten pictures to be made for United Artists by five independent producers will be lensed here, said a recent statement of the company's board of directors. The film, to be produced by Leopold Schlossberg, is an adaptation of "A Man Scans His Past" and will be made in English and French versions.

Meanwhile Canadian companies with production facilities have been answering enquiries from American producers or showing their representatives around. It is presumed they are motivated by an intention to shoot in this country when and if Ottawa and the film industry agree on the means of keeping Canadian earnings in this country.

But it's all a big mystery, some of which was dispelled by Trade and Commerce Minister C. D. Howe in the House of Commons recently. Answering questions from members, he revealed that the government was aiming at a quid pro quo agreement — that is, an equivalent spending here of moneys remitted to the USA.

Hollywood companies have always made some shorts in Canada every year and the first indications are that more will be shot on this side of the line.

Companies other than UA have not stated their intention of producing films in Canada but there has been considerable shooting in Quebec, Banff and other scenic locations during the past few years as a matter of course. During the past couple of years Fox, Paramount, Eagle Lion (Hollywood) and MGM did location shooting in various parts of Canada. All future work of this kind will probably be related to the government-industry talks.

Al Rogell, Hollywood indie who was talking a deal with Canadian interests, will shoot a ski-star film called "Shadow of Time," probably in the West, where he worked on "Northwest Stampede" last summer. There is talk of a mountie film being made by Fox, which worked on "13 Rue Madeleine" in Quebec and "The Iron Curtain" in Ottawa.

It is also likely that "Mrs. Mike" will be made here.

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Stars For 'Sunburst'

Dane Clark and Geraldine Brooks will star in Warners' "Sunburst."

Hal Wallis Purchase

Hal Wallis has purchased Gertrude Schweitzer's "Obsession."

New Liberty Poll Picks 'Jolson'

New Liberty's movie awards, based on films shown in Canada during 1947, were made public in its April issue. Exhibitors participated in the poll, which will be conducted annually. Columbia's "The Jolson Story" was the choice of the best film and also led in the biggest money-maker category. It was also chosen as the best musical and as the 1947 film with the best musical score. Larry Parks, because of his performance in "The Jolson Story," was picked as the best new male star, while Alfred E. Green won the directorial honors for his work on the film.

Bing Crosby was chosen the best male performer and Ingrid Bergman the best female performer. Best new female star was Deborah Kerr.

"The Egg and I," from Empire-Universal, got the award as the best comedy, "The Yearling," MGM, had the best photography, and "Great Expectations," Eagle-Lion, the best dialogue.

Best cartoon was MGM's "The Cat Concerto." Winner in the best short subject category was Paramount Canadian Newsreel's "The Royal Wedding."

Canadian Premiere

Canadian premiere of Allied Artists' Tchaikovsky film, "Song of My Heart," recently took place at the International Cinema, Toronto.

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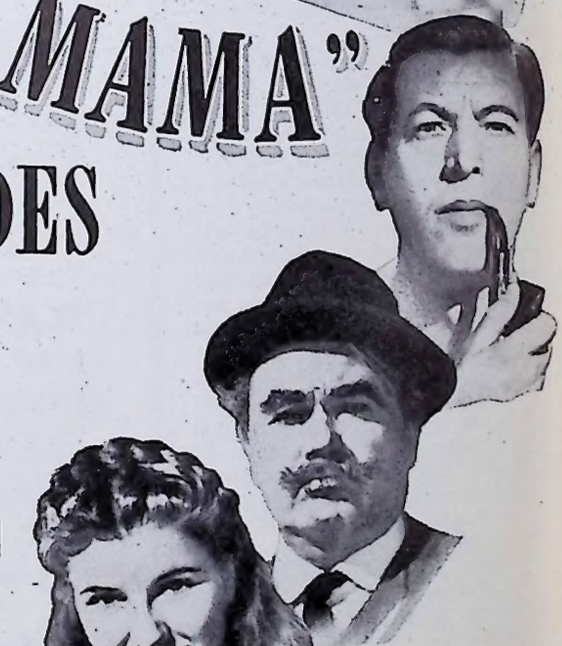

RKO RADIO PICTURES

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Screen Play by DeWITT BODEEN
Based Upon the Play by JOHN VAN DRUTEN